

by Diane Henshaw was this year decorated with a range of New Zealand insects in honour of a visitor from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, Professor P.M. Johns, who studies the rich New Zealand fauna of crane flies, as well as being a specialist on 'Wetas', the large Orthoptera found in the Southern Hemisphere. Recognizable depictions of members of his two groups were included in the cake design and Prof. Johns made some pertinent remarks on them when he was called upon to cut the cake.

It is to be hoped that this popular event will in future years be restored to its November date. — P.J. Chandler.

Some additional British records of *Metopomyza ornata* (Meig.) (Diptera: Agromyzidae) a leaf-miner of the flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus* L.). — The attractive agromyzid *Metopomyza ornata* (Meig.) was introduced to the British list (as *Cerodontha ornata*) on the basis of material from Runnymede, Surrey (Chandler, 1973). Subsequently, the species was transferred to the genus *Metopomyza* (Spencer, 1976). As far as I am aware, no additional localities have been reported in Britain since Chandler's 1973 paper, so it may be of interest that in 1983 I found it by sweeping *Butomus* at three widely separated sites, two in East Anglia and one in South-East England. On 18.vii.83, *M.ornata* was frequent along a dyke with rich aquatic and emergent vegetation (including a considerable amount of *Butomus*) at Oulton Marsh, East Suffolk (TM 506937), in company with some other local Diptera typical of grazing levels marshes, including the hoverfly *Neoscia interrupta* Meig. and the dolichopodids *Syntormon pumilus* Meig., *Chrysotus collini* Parent and *C.microcerus* Kowarz. On 24.vii.83 I found four males and two females of *M.ornata* along the River Ouse near Brampton, Hunts. (TL 220697), in this instance associated with a relatively sparse stand of *Butomus* emerging from the water close to the west bank of the river. Finally, on 25.vii.83, on the Lewes Levels, East Sussex, a single male and two females were discovered beside a large dyke, with varied emergent vegetation including *Butomus* (TQ 426057). At the same time I swept two males and two females of the rare hoverfly *Lejops vittata* Meig. which is a species characteristic of slightly saline levels marshes. The following day, 26.vii.83, a single male and female *M.ornata* were found nearby (TQ 425085) together with *Chalcis sispes* L. (Hymenoptera: Chalcididae) which is a very scarce parasitoid of soldier flies, Stratiomyidae. It seems probable that *M.ornata* is more widely established in England than hitherto realized, and it will be interesting to see whether further records will be forthcoming from elsewhere within the geographical range of *Butomus* in Britain. — I.F.G. McLean, Nature Conservancy Council, Northminster House, Peterborough PE1 1UA.

REFERENCES

- Chandler, P.J. 1973. *Cerodontha ornata* (Meig.) (Dipt., Agromyzidae), a leaf-miner of the flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus* L.) new to the British Isles. *Proc. Trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.* 6(3): 85–87.
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